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To the Directorate of Police in Baghdad.

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In accordance with the directives issued to the officer-designate, a report is herein submitted regarding the present security circumstances affording the northern reaches of the Arabian Peninsula and the adjoining desert districts that influence the authority of the State of Baghdad.

Through the combined effects of compelling loyal auxiliaries and loyal tribal elements, notable progress has been achieved in suppressing disturbances that had previously arisen from certain tribes inclined toward agitation and defiance of government authority. These efforts have to a considerable extent, restored order and stability throughout the greater portion of the region.

Nevertheless, it must be noted that one tribe retains a persistent concern of concern: the Bani Ghanem. This tribe is presently led by a man known as Ibn Shanuf, whose influence among his people is considerable. Reports from field agents describe him as a figure of notable cunning and strategic aptitudes, possessing a disciplined and mobile fighting force that distinguishes him from the other tribal leaders of the surrounding territories.

Under his leadership, the Bani Ghanem have cultivated alliances with several minor desert clans, enabling them to conduct a series of organized raids against administrative outposts and supply routes connected to the directorates of the State of Baghdad. Intelligence further suggests that Ibn Shanuf has encouraged the spread of Wahhabi religious doctrines among his followers and neighboring tribes, using it as an instrument to strengthen resistance against authorities whom they deem hostile to their interpretation of Islamic governance.

In recent months, the addition of the Shanuf appears to have expanded beyond simple raiding operations. Evidence indicates that he and his council attempted to establish a form of territorial division within the desert regions of the Peninsula, meet the Peninsula, intending to consolidate authority among allied tribes and thereby strengthen their independence from state administration. Such plans, however, met with resistance from numerous tribal elders who feared the rise of an overly powerful confederation under Ibn Shanuf's command.

Consequently, a gathering of rival tribes was convened, during which several prominent sheikhs voiced strong opposition to the growing influence of the Bani Ghanem. Their collective demand was the curtailment—if not outright destruction—of the emerging power centered upon Ibn Shanuf.

Following a prolonged period of hostilities and tribal reprisals, severe consequences befell the sons and fighting men of the Bani Ghanem. Their forces have since become dispersed across the desert, and their once-formidable strength appears to have diminished considerably. Though remnants of their bands remain active, current intelligence suggests that they no longer command the unified power they previously wielded.

It is therefore assessed that, while the immediate threat has been reduced, continued vigilance is advisable. The desert tribes are prone to swift realignment, and figures of ambition such as the Shanuf may yet attempt to reassemble their followers should circumstances prove favorable.

Submitted with respect and in faithful services to the Directorate.

Filed on the 24th day of January, 1916.

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